

Postdoctoral Fellowship 2011

Information and Communication Technologies for Development

Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information, Nanyang Technological University

A postdoctoral fellowship to investigate the adoption and impact of mobile internet within a developmental context, focusing on South and/or South-East Asia is available at the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information. Successful applicants are expected to work closely with Prof. Arul Chib, Assistant Professor.

About the Project

Digital divide in my pocket: Investigating the impact of mobile internet within a developmental context

According to the International Telecommunication Union, 17 developing economy inhabitants per 100 are using the internet, comprising 39 percent of the world's internet users, as opposed to 62 inhabitants in developed economies. Contrast this with the fact that Asia and the Pacific accounted for 42 percent of the world's mobile cellular subscriptions, with 37 percent penetration. The on-going convergence of these two technologies, has profound implications for theoretical insights, as Asian mobile users encounter the internet for the first time on mobile devices. With the roll-out of 3G and 4G networks in developing countries, the advent of mobile internet has the potential to impact key developmental indicators such as education, health, and livelihoods.

This study will compare the rise of the mobile internet in a developmental context, from a predominantly demand-side analysis. The key questions to be answered will be as follows:

- What is the impact of internet versus mobile access on development?
- What are the unique and/or combined impacts of mobile internet on the development domain?
- What are the key factors influencing adoption of mobile internet, in the context of development issues?

Fieldwork will be conducted in South and/or South-east Asia, comparing the adoption and impact of mobile internet technology. The proposed mixed-methodology will include qualitative interviews, quantitative surveys, and the use of audio-visual recordings to develop case-studies.

About Dr. Arul Chib

Dr. Chib examines the impact of development campaigns delivered via a range of innovative information and communication technologies (ICTD). He has proposed theoretical frameworks of analysis, including the ICT for healthcare development model (ICT4H), and the Technology-Community-Management model (TCM), contributing to the conceptual progress of the discipline. Click here for more about [Dr. Chib](#). The research cluster also includes Dr. [Trisha Lin](#) and Dr. [Fernando Paragas](#).

About the School

Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, consistently ranks among the top 100 universities in the world in the current university league tables. It offers attractive remuneration and benefits. For information about the University, please visit www.ntu.edu.sg.

Requirements

Successful applicants will have:

- Publication and/or project track record relevant to ICTD in general, mobiles in particular.
- Proficiency in quantitative data analysis, preferably in SPSS and/or SAS.
- Strong verbal and writing communication skills in English, including narrative report and proposals. Proficiency in a South or South-East Asian language and cultural knowledge is preferred but not essential.
- Ability and desire to travel to, and work independently in, developing regions of South and/or South-East Asia.
- Have the ability to teach communication campaigns, and/or ICTD courses.
- Participate as a research fellow at the Singapore Internet Research Center.

To apply: <http://cohass.ntu.edu.sg/Research/postdoctoral/Pages/Application.aspx>

Applications must reach the College by **March 31, 2011**. Click here for more [information](#).